

AMENDED CLAIMS:

1. Propellant for gas generators, comprising

(A) at least one fuel selected from the group consisting of guanidine nitrate (GUNI; GuNO_3), dicyanamide, ammonium dicyanamide, sodium dicyanamide (Na-DCA), copper dicyanamide, tin dicyanamide, calcium dicyanamide (Ca-DCA), guanidine dicyanamide (GDCA), aminoguanidine bicarbonate (AGB), aminoguanidine nitrate (AGN), triaminoguanidine nitrate (TAGN), nitroguanidine (NIGU), dicyandiamide (DCD), azodicarbonamide (ADCA) as well as tetrazole (HTZ), 5-aminotetrazole (ATZ), 5-nitro-1,2,4-triazole-3-on (NTO), salts and mixtures thereof,

(B) at least one alkali metal nitrate or alkaline earth metal nitrate or ammonium nitrate, -chlorate or -perchlorate,

(C) at least one essentially chemically-inert slag trap with a high fusion point, selected from the group comprising highly dispersed Al_2O_3 having a specific surface of $100 \pm 15 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$, highly dispersed TiO_2 having a specific surface of $50 \pm 15 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ and highly dispersed ZrO_2 having a specific surface of $40 \pm 10 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ and mixtures thereof.

2. Propellant for gas generators according to claim 1, wherein component (A) is present in an amount of about 20 to 60 wt.-%, preferably of about 28 to 52 wt.-% and in particular of about 45 to 51 wt.-%, component (B) is present in an amount of about 38 to about 63 wt.-%, preferably of about 38 to about 55 wt.-% and in particular of about 39 to 45 wt.-%, component (C) is present in an amount of about 5 to 22 wt.-%,

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preferably of about 8 to 20 wt.-% and in particular of about 9 to 11 wt.-%.

3. Propellant for gas generators according to claim 1 or 2, wherein component (A) is selected from the group consisting of nitroguanidine, 5-aminotetrazole, dicyandiamide, dicyanamide, sodium- and calcium dicyanamide and guanidine nitrate, and mixtures thereof.

4. Propellant for gas generators according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein component (B) is selected from the group consisting of sodium-, potassium- and strontium nitrate.

5. Propellant for gas generators according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein a part of the component (C) is a carrier for a platinum metal or a metal alloy of platinum metals or copper in a catalytic effective layer thickness.

6. Propellant for gas generators according to claim 5, wherein the platinum metal is selected from ruthenium (Ru), Osmium (Os), rhodium (Rh), iridium (Ir), palladium (Pd) and platinum (Pt).

7. Propellant for gas generators according to claim 5, wherein the metal alloy of platinum metals is selected from Pt/Pd and Pt/Rh alloys.

8. Propellant for gas generators according to any one of claims 5 to 7, wherein the weight portion of the catalyst with respect to component (C) is 0.1 to 5 wt.-%, preferably 0.2 to 1.2 wt.-%.

9. Propellant for gas generators according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein component (A) is nitroguanidine, component (B) is strontium nitrate and component (C) is highly dispersed Al_2O_3 , TiO_2 or ZrO_2 .

10. Propellant for gas generators according to claim 9, wherein component (A) is present in an amount of 45 to 51 wt.-%, component (B) is present in an amount of 39 to 45 wt.-% and component (C) is present in an amount of 9 to 11 wt.-%, with respect to the total composition.

11. Propellant for gas generators according to any one of claims 1 to 9, containing in addition component (D) at least one slag former, selected from alkali metal and alkaline earth metal carbonates, alkali metal and alkaline earth metal oxides, silicates, aluminates, aluminium silicates, silicon nitride (Si_3N_4) and iron(III)oxide.

12. Propellant for gas generators according to claim 11, wherein component (D) is present in an amount of about 2 to 12 wt.-%, preferably in an amount of about 4 to 10 wt.-%.

13. Propellant for gas generators according to any one of claims 1 to 12, further containing component (E) at least one binder being soluble in water at room temperature.

14. Propellant for gas generators according to claim 13, wherein the binder is selected from the group consisting of cellulose compounds, polymers of one or more polymerisable olefinic unsaturated monomers, a metal salt of stearic acid being insoluble in water at room temperature and graphite.

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15. Propellant for gas generators according to claim 13 or 14, wherein the binder is present in an amount of 0 to 2 wt.-%, preferably of 0.3 to 0.8 wt.-%.

16. Use of the propellant for gas generators according to any one of claims 1 to 15 as gas-generating agent in airbags, as extinguishing agent or as propellant.

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